

# THE CHRONICLE

D. F. WRIGHT, M. D., Editor.

CLARKSVILLE - SEPT. 21, 1878.

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STATE DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

Election Nov. 5, 1878.

For Governor,

ALBERT S. MARKS, of Franklin.

For Congress,

HON. JOHN F. HOUSE.

For Senator,

COL. N. BRANDON, of Stewart.

For Representative,

HON. JAS. E. RICE, of Montgomery.

For Floater,

DR. WM. A. WEST, of Stewart.

A NEW LEAF.

The Maine election seems to have

occurred, or at least ushered in, a

reign of inextinguishable conflict in

political affairs. It was a defeat for

the Republicans and yet cannot be

called a victory for the Democrats,

who can only claim a share of the

spoils by coming in on condition of

an alliance offensive and defensive

with the Greenbackers. In Boston

and Massachusetts it seems that the

Democrats are driven to a choice

between coalition with the Independ-

ents, who have nominated Ben.

Butler, or with the Republicans, or

political inaction. In New York

confusion is more complete still;

the alliance between the extreme

Republicans who favor Conkling

and the extreme Democrats who

belong to Tammany having appar-

ently occasioned an understanding

between the anti-Tammany Demo-

crats and that wing of the Republi-

cans which is guided by Evans and

Curtis.

Only one thing can be seen clearly

through this complication, and that

is that the old issues, those growing

out of the war, are to be abandoned

by both parties and the new issues

have not yet been defined. That

existing organizations can long sur-

vive this abandonment of old issues

seems to the judgment of common

sense incredible. The existing Rep-

ublican party consolidated during

the war had only two purposes, one,

during the war, to conquer the

South, the other, since the war, to

hold it in subjection. The existing

Democratic party had only one pur-

pose either, to free the country from

the influence of the Republican

party, and the other, to keep the

South in subjection. Now, since

the Maine election seems to have

given the coup de grace to the already

moribund carpet-bag policy, the

cohesive force of both parties seems

thereby to be neutralized, and both

of them seem to be in danger of

being resolved into their constitu-

ent elements. This paralysis of the

two existing parties has been the

opportunity of the politicians who

control that loosely associated

chaotic body which in different local-

ities assumes the title of the Green-

back, Labor, National, Independent

party, and many other appellations,

and under Ben. Butler and Denis

Kearney has thrived, not by its own

merits, but by the perplexity and

Benjamin Butler would sink any

ship that might consent to carry

him.

Since writing the above further

intelligence has made it plain that

the mob which held the hall in

Worcester by force against the

authority of the Mayor, was in no

sense a Democratic Convention.

They engaged all the halls in Wor-

cester, so that the true Democratic

Convention could have no meeting

for business. They assembled, how-

ever, where it was stated, probably

in the open air, and adopted the

following address:

To the Democrats of Massachusetts:

Whereas, a delegate convention of

Democrats of Massachusetts for the

nomination of candidates for State

offices was held at Worcester this day

and, whereas, it is found that the

majority of said convention met at

Hall, the hall engaged by the commit-

tee, and that said hall was not

properly secured, and that the

committee without force and prob-

ably by the aid of the mob, and by

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The pretext is that the resumption

bill does not authorize him to re-

sume Treasury notes till the 1st

of January next in either silver or

gold. The words of the resumption

act on which this opinion is

grounded are as follows:

On and after the first day of January, 1879,

the Secretary of the Treasury shall redeem

in coin the United States legal-tender notes

then outstanding, on their presentation for

redemption at the office of the

Treasurer of the United States in New York

city, in sums not less than \$5.

We give no opinion as to his in-

terpretation of the law, but certainly

this issuance of contradictory orders

is calculated to produce a ruinous

effect on business transactions.

EPIDEMIC TYPES.

The discussion of medical sub-

jects elsewhere than in the medical

journals is generally inexpedient,

but the public mind is at this time

so intensely excited on the subject

of the prevailing epidemic, the

demand for information about it is

so exacting that we are scarcely

able to avoid it. We are going

to enter upon no controversy in the

present paper, we propose to

ventilate no method of healing

yellow fever, or to prescribe any

precise limits for its prevalence;

but we wish to discuss a subject the

knowledge of which may have

some influence in allaying ground-

less alarms. Ignorance is the

mother of terror. Those who know

nothing of the laws of epidemics

and comets are filled with super-

stitious dread when one or the other

appears, and even those visitations

which are really terrible loose part

of their terrors when something

like law can be observed in the

mode of their invasion.

We propose now to call attention

to a curious phenomenon regarding

both the present and other epidemics

which may be thus stated.

When any epidemic is extensively

prevalent, there is always observed

outside of the area of its prevalence

a tendency in the local diseases

to assume a type more or less conform-

ing to the symptoms of the epidemic

disease. Let this, should be

found unintelligible to non-profes-

sional readers, we will illustrate it

with an occurrence within the

memory of all. It is not many

years since Nashville, Louisville

and Erie were visited with a ter-

rrible epidemic cholera, and all three

places lost a large per centage of

their population. During that visit-

ation Clarksville enjoyed a happy

exemption from the scourge which

was depopulating her neighbors,

not above three or four cases having

occurred, which any one under any

circumstances would have pro-

nounced Asiatic cholera. But during

the same period there was scarcely

a person in the city who did not

know the cholera, and the

bowels easily treated and in no

case fatal. Now in reference to the

present epidemic, before ever the

disease was well established in Mem-

phis, the physicians noticed that the

regular malarial fevers, with which

we are all familiar, assumed an

unusual type. The regular succession

of chills, fever and intermission

was lost, and after a single chill the

fever lasted with barely perceptible

remission for three or four days,

and was followed with great pro-

stration, all the being attended with

a disposition to vomit, and other

symptoms not necessary to describe

here, all which conforms so far as it

goes with the ordinary course of

yellow fever. What may be the

cause of this phenomenon we do not

stop to enquire nor should we hope

for a decisive answer if we did. But

we desire to set aside a source

of alarm which would arise from

the phenomenon through people

mistaking fever of an unusual type

for yellow fever; a mistake to

which medical men are liable as

well.

Speculation might busy itself

with the question which of two

alternatives is the correct one. Is

this epidemic type caused by the

proximity of yellow fever, or is it

determined by causes independent

of that proximity, and does the

spread of the epidemic itself, from

those regions in which its presence

is perpetual, depend upon the ex-

istence of a local type analogous to

it in character, and therefore favor-

able to receive and transmit the

question for pathologists to investi-

gate who are still ignorant of the

fundamental laws of epidemics,

with whatever confidence they may

propagate their opinions; but the

matter has its practical bearing, both

for professional and non-profession-

al people, in cautioning them not

to give way to panic because a case

of fever may occur among them

presenting many of the features of

the prevailing epidemic.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—Two Wash-

ington physicians have written to the

Chronicle a letter which will be

found in this issue. It is a letter

from Dr. J. H. Hays, of the

Washington Dispensary, and Dr.

John H. Hays, of the Washington

Dispensary, and Dr. John H. Hays,

of the Washington Dispensary,

and Dr. John H. Hays, of the

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